themselves and making improvements in accordance with the opinion expressed by Colonel G. V. Winson, R.E., Superintending Engineer, that the scheme was feasible and might even yield a small profit on the outlay incurred;

(b) whether the permission granted to the Zamindar of Chintalapati Vantu in B.P. No. 7888, dated 31st October 1866, was not intended to extend irrigation only to the Government lands in Nandigama village;

(c) if so, whether the Government are aware that the Zamindar now intends to utilize the Muniyeru water to his home farm and ryoti lands in extent of about 400 and 600 acres respectively in Kancherla village which is about three miles away from Nandigama;

(d) whether the Government are aware that the Zamindar of Chintalapati Vantu has been arbitrarily granting or refusing permission for the irrigation of dry lands, withdrawing water from the fields which were irrigated for some years and coercing the people to execute agreements with harassing terms and thus utilizing the permission granted to him purely for his personal advantage much to the prejudice of the Government ryots in Nandigama village;

(e) if the Government have no information whether they will be pleased to call for a report and examine the methods adopted by the Zamindar in the matter of supplying water for irrigation and in the matter of extending the irrigation from time to time; and

(f) whether the Government will now order a complete investigation of the project and consider whether it will not be financially advantageous to them to take up the project into their own hands and extend irrigation facilities to as many villages as possible?

A.—A report has been called for.

The ZAMINDAR OF MIRZAPURAM:—"May I know whether the report, when received, will be placed on the table of the House?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"When the report has been received, the hon. Member's suggestion that it should be placed on the table of the House will be considered."

Land Assignment

Assignment of lands in Nedungal reserve.

*204 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that contrary to the original instructions of the Government, the Collector of North Arcot is attempting to dispose of a large extent of land in the Nedungal reserve, to Christians of Wandiwash and other places at the instance of one Rev. Father Paul;

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to issue instructions to the Collector to give up all endeavours in that direction;

(c) whether they will be pleased to direct the Collector of North Arcot, to reserve for the village-site of the caste Hindus, the plots originally intended for them without giving them away to the Adi-Dravidas of other villages;

(d) whether Aundi Goundan has submitted a memorial claiming an assignment of certain lands to him and his party; and

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to cancel the sales of lands held contrary to his claims?

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A.—(*a*) The Government have no information other than that conveyed in a letter from the hon. Member containing a statement to this effect.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Board of Revenue has been asked to report what action has been taken in regard to the disposal of the lands. The suggestions of the hon. Member will be considered on receipt of the Board's report.

(*d*) The memorial referred to has been received. The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered on receipt of the Board's report.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I know from the hon. the Revenue Member whether proselytisation work is going on in the North Arcot district and whether the Collector is attempting to dispose of a large extent of land only to those who are likely to get converts to Christianity ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I cannot answer that question without verifying the facts on the point."

Poramboke lands transferred to ayan in North Arcot district.

*205 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(*a*) to lay on the table a statement showing the extent of tank-bed, grazing ground, poramboke and other communal lands transferred to ayan and assigned either to members of the depressed classes or ex-military men in the past five years in the North Arcot district ; and

(*b*) to state whether the Government will be pleased to direct the Collector of North Arcot to examine the cases of transfer to ayan and cancel them wherever objectionable ?

A.—(*a*) There is no existing return which shows the particulars desired. They would have to be specially compiled ; and Government are not aware of any reason why such compilation should be undertaken.

(*b*) Transfers of poramboke land to ayan are sanctioned by the Collector. The Government have no reason to think that such transfers have been effected without adequate grounds and therefore are unable to issue the instructions suggested.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. Revenue Member whether in view of the fact that the present Collector of North Arcot has assigned a large extent of grazing porambokes and other lands to depressed classes men and ex-military men, and to the 'flock' of one Reverend Paul, and that it has caused tangible inconvenience to the caste ryots of the locality, he will be pleased to call for an exhaustive report ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I have already answered that question."

Assignment of lands in Settigunta village in Rajampet taluk.

*206 Q.—Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have granted the assignment of a large extent of land to Messrs. Best & Co. in Settigunta village of Rajampet taluk, Cuddapah district ;